

# What to do if a Person is Symptomatic at School



If a person has one or more of these symptoms:

- Fever (>100.4°F) or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Cough (new, changed, or worsening)



They should isolate at home **AND** get tested for COVID-19

- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Sore throat



They should isolate at home

Was **only ONE** symptom present?

NO

YES

Did the symptom resolve within 24 hours **OR** is it consistent with a diagnosed chronic illness?

NO

YES

Are they a known **close contact**?

NO

YES

They test **POSITIVE** for COVID-19 **OR** do not get tested

They test **NEGATIVE** for COVID-19 (home tests not accepted) **OR** receive an alternative named diagnosis from a health care provider plus a negative test

**Isolate at home**

They can return to school after 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared if:

1. No fever within the past 24 hours (without medication)

**AND**

2. Symptoms have significantly improved

**AND Identify close contacts of positive cases**

See **Tree 2** and follow COVID-19 Contact Tracing Checklist for K-12 Schools

**Return to school**

They can return to school if:

1. No fever within the past 24 hours (without medication)

**AND**

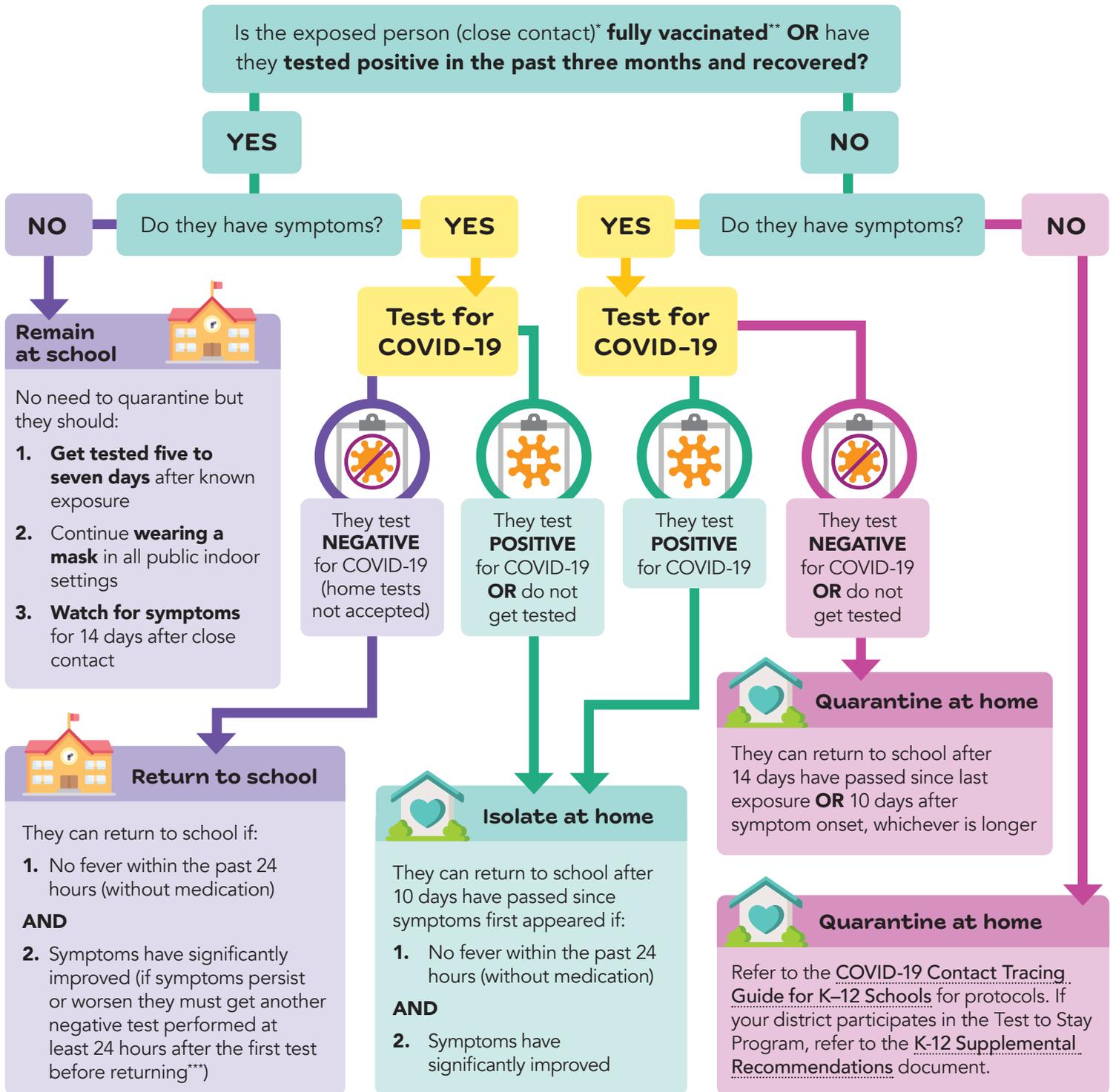
Symptoms have significantly improved (if symptoms persist or worsen they must get another negative test performed at least 24 hours after the first test before returning\*\*\*)

see **tree 2**

# Identify and Care for Close Contacts at School



If there is a COVID-19 positive person at school:



\***Close contact:** Someone who was within 6 feet of a COVID-19 positive person for a total of 15 minutes or more within 24 hours during the case's contagious period. In a K-12 indoor/outdoor classroom, the close contact definition excludes students who were at least three feet away from an infectious student when both students were consistently and correctly wearing masks. Please see the [COVID-19 Contact Tracing Guide for K-12 Schools](#) for additional information. The definition of a close contact may vary in some situations. The local health department makes the ultimate determination of a close contact during its investigation, but may delegate this decision if appropriate.

\*\*A person is **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19 when they've had two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and at least two weeks have passed since their last dose.

\*\*\*Second test may be a NAAT or an antigen test, but not a home test